

PROVISION FOR NEW REVENUE CUTTERS.

LETTER

FROM

THE SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY,

TRANSMITTING,

WITH FAVORABLE RECOMMENDATION, A LETTER FROM THE
CHIEF OF DIVISION, REVENUE-CUTTER SERVICE, RELATING
TO NEW REVENUE CUTTERS.

FEBRUARY 10, 1903.—Referred to the Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce and ordered to be printed.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT,
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY,
Washington, February 9, 1903.

SIR: I inclose herewith a letter addressed to me by the chief of division, Revenue-Cutter Service, urging that provision for new revenue cutters to take the place of old ones be made.

I approve this letter, and recommend its subject-matter to the favorable consideration of Congress.

Respectfully,

L. M. SHAW,
Secretary.

THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT,
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY,
Washington, February 9, 1903.

SIR: I beg respectfully to call your attention to the worthless condition of two vessels of the service, the *McLane*, on the Key West station, and the *Hamilton*, stationed at Savannah, and to ask that you will address a letter to the Speaker of the House of Representatives urging the passage of House bills now pending, making appropriation for constructing new vessels to replace those named.

The Secretary of the Treasury in his annual reports every year for a number of years past has recommended appropriations for new vessels to take the place of the old craft now in use.

I have the honor to respectfully state that the retention of these old vessels is not creditable to the Government. They can not be depended upon for any special service. They have already cost a large sum to keep afloat, as the following statement will show:

The <i>McLane</i> .—Acquired in 1865, relic of the civil war:	
Original cost	\$36,000
Cost since for repairs	117,000
Total cost to June 30, 1901	153,000

And now, after thirty-eight years of continuous service, is worn out in hull and motive power.

The <i>Hamilton</i> .—Constructed in 1871, thirty-two years old:	
Original cost	\$65,000
Cost since for repairs	103,567
Total cost to June 30, 1901	168,567

This vessel is now in need of extensive repairs, and it is not worth the necessary expenditure to make them.

I do most earnestly plead for the good of the service and its efficiency that provision be made for new vessels.

Respectfully,

C. F. SHOEMAKER,

Captain, Revenue-Cutter Service, Chief of Division.

THE SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY.